Foreign investment in higher education

*137. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for foreign investment in higher education and allowing foreign institutions to establish their centers in India;

(b) if so, the details of steps initiated/to be initiated on such proposals/ programme as on date, category-wise; and

(c) the details of proposals suggested or on the anvil regarding public-private patnership models, if any, in higher education, State-wise and category-wise as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. AUASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the Education Sector (including higher education) is allowed under the automatic route as per policy guidelines of 11th February, 2000, of the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion. Foreign institutions imparting technical education are covered under the 'Regulations for entry and operation of foreign universities/institutions imparting technical education in India' notified by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) on May 25, 2005.

Government intends to bring a legislation to regulate entry and operation of foreign institutions in higher education also.

(c) No such proposal under consideration of this Ministry.

Strikes by lawyers

*138. SHRIVIJAYJ. DARDA
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Resolution passed by the Delhi High Court on the 10th January, 2006 "Directing subordinate judges to sit in their courts and pass orders even if lawyers remain absent" in the wake of the on-going confrontation between the bench and the bar in Delhi Tis Hazari Courts;

(b) If so, whether Government are thinking of devising such standing modalities whereby off-repeated strikes by lawyers paralyzing the working of the Courts could be eliminated; and

(c) whether Govt, would also adopt the suggestions of the High Court that video cameras be used to identify troublemakers and if need be, police can be called and contempt action initiated in view of the situation?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per Article 227 of the Constitution of India, the power of superintendence on all Courts and Tribunals lies with the Hon'ble High Courts. Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ex. Captain Harish Uppal *Vs* Union of India (2003) 2SCC 45 and in various others cases has held that the advocates have no right to go on strike. It may also be added that as per Section 6 (1) (c) of Advocates Act, 1961, it is for the State Bar Council to entertain and determine cases of misconduct against advocates on its roll. The Hon'ble High Court of Delhi *vide* its resolution dated 10.01.2006 has, *inter-alia,* resolved that the District Judge shall arrange for adequate police force to be kept in reserve in the judgeship, to be deployed for protection of judicial officers, lawyers, litigants, court staff and the court property, and if possible video cameras should also be used. The resolution further says that the district judge should infrom the names of the persons involved in disrupting the court proceedings to the High Court forthwith so that appropriate proceedings for contempt of court can be taken. However, if any law and other problem arises, necessary action will be taken by the Government as per law.

Orphanage for children in Assam

*139. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have record of the children who have become orphan due to ethnic violence, militancy etc. in Assam during the last ten years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for the welfare of those children; and

(c) the status in respect of education, shelter and health?